

Purtis Creek State Park Trails Map



POINTS OF INTEREST

(GPS coordinates shown in degrees, minutes, seconds)

BLUESTEM PRAIRIE 32° 21' 14.8"N 95° 59' 35.7"W

Summer or winter, birds and mammals find a use for bluestem grass species, whether its food or shelter. Here at the park, we're working to restore this important habitat.

NATIVE AQUATIC VEGETATION RESTORATION 32° 21′ 29.4"N 96° 00′ 08.6"W

Just at the lake's edge, you will notice a wire cage partially submerged in the water. Ten of these ex-closure cages have been constructed and placed around the lake by Texas Parks and Wildlife to help propagate beneficial grasses and to prevent grass carp grazing.

ENTRANCE TO OAK FOREST 32° 21' 45.4"N 96° 00' 23.8"W

All trails here lead to an upland forest composed primarily of Post Oak, Blackiack Oak, and Black Hickory trees. White-tailed deer, coyotes, raccoons and a multitude of avian species call this area home.

BENT BY NATURE

32° 21' 53.3"N 96° 00' 29"W

Check out the bend in this young oak tree's main trunk; it's been bent 90° twice and it is still thriving on its own! What do you think caused these bends?

BURLWOOD TREE 32° 21' 52.9"N 96° 00' 23.9"W

Usually caused by stress, a burl is a growth in which the wood grain has grown in a deformed manner and is typically found on the trunk as a rounded outgrowth.

FEATHERED FRIENDS 32° 21' 50.6"N 96° 00' 06"W

Take a peek from this bird blind to see the birds that frequent Purtis Creek Lake. Bald eagles nest in the area and white pelicans can be found here during the winter. What species can you ID?

A PLACE TO REST

32° 21' 51.6"N 96° 00' 01.6"W

Pause here, and take in a gorgeous view next to the bridge spanning one of the many water inlets to the lake. You may even hear a hawk cry out or if it's early evening, beaver may be out and about.

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Purtis Creek State Park



More than just great bass!

An hour southeast of Dallas, Purtis Creek State Park is known for its bass fishing, but there's so much more to do! Come for the fish, and stay to swim, hike or bike the trails, or just relax by the lake.

STAYING SAFE

KNOW YOUR LIMITS. Prepare for sun and heat. Wear sunscreen, insect repellent and appropriate clothing/ hiking shoes.

DRINK PLENTY OF WATER. Your body quickly loses fluids when you're on the trail. Bring a quart of water per hour of activity.

TELL OTHERS WHERE YOU'LL BE. If possible, avoid exploring alone. Tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

WEAR A HELMET. When biking, check with park HQ to match the trail to your skill level. Wear a helmet to protect yourself in case of a crash.

YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO CONNECT. It's a good idea to take along a cell phone and GPS unit, but don't count on them.

POTENTIALLY HARMFUL PLANTS AND ANIMALS MAY LIVE HERE. You'll see them more easily if you stay on trails.



TRAIL	DISTANCE	TIME	DIFFICULTY	DESCRIPTION
SOLAR WALK	0.5 mi.	30 min.	Easy	Take a short hike along this concrete trail that follows alongside the dam. As you hike, interpretive signs demonstrate the relative distances of our planets.
BEAVER SLIDE NATURE PATH	1.3 mi.	1.5 hrs.	Easy	One of the favorite trails in the park, this trail offers spectacular views of the lake. There's also plenty of wildlife viewing opportunities as you hike. No bike use on this trail.
WOLFPEN HIKE AND BIKE TRAIL (GREEN LOOP)	0.8 mi. (one way)	45 min.	Easy	This short trail is great for families with small children. Perfect for hiking and biking, this trail segment will lead you to the remaining Wolfpen Trail loops.
WOLFPEN HIKE AND BIKE TRAIL (BLUE LOOP)	2.0 mi.	2 hrs.	Easy	This section of the Wolfpen Trail is very shaded; great hiking or biking on a sunny day!
WOLFPEN HIKE AND BIKE TRAIL (RED LOOP)	1.4 mi.	1.5 hrs.	Easy	Follow the third segment of the Wolfpen Trail, and hike or bike over some mild elevation changes. Keep your eyes open for wildlife!

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Trash your trash. Pack out all of your trash and Leave No Trace.

Leave feeding to nature. Feeding wild animals will make them sick. Please do not feed them.

Don't Pocket the Past. Help preserve Texas heritage. Leave artifacts where you find them and report their location to a ranger.

Take only memories and pictures. Please don't disturb or remove any of the park's plants, animals or artifacts.

Keep pets on leashes to keep them safe, while protecting wildlife.

FOR EMERGENCIES, PLEASE CALL 9-1-1.